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SOURCE

Bashkimi.

HOXHA CHARGES SABOTAGE OF ALBANIAN TRANSPORTATION

CLAIMS SOVIET TRANSPORT AID UNDERMINED -- Bashkimi, No 1652, 11 Apr 50

In his speech of 10 April 1950 before the Second Congress of the Albanian Workers' Party, President Enver Hoxha accused Niazi Islami of having disregarded valuable Soviet experience in the efficient organization of transportation. Hoxha charged him with instigating sabotage against railroads and automobile transportation, especially against the ZIS motor vehicles imported from the USSR.

According to Hoxha, Islami at first spread the rumor that Soviet-made trailers were not suitable for use on Albanian roads. In defiance of the government's orders, he did not put these trailers into use for a long time, and thus caused great damage to and disorganization of transportation. Later said Hoxha, he spread the report that the Soviet ZIS consumed too much petroleum.

Hoxha pointed out that Islami's sabotage of transportation occurred at a time when Albanian transportation was very Weak. The USSR and People's Democracies were sending reconstruction materials and a variety of consumers' goods into Albania, and this valuable freight could not be transported to the centers where it was needed. Also, he pointed out, Albania was short of petroleum.

Hoxha further accused Niazi Isfami and Abedin Shehu and their associates of sabotaging the production of petroleum derivatives, the production and transport of chrome, the transport of cement, and the exploitation of bitumen and copper.

EXTENSION OF RAIL LINE UNDER WAY -- Bashkimi, No 1658, 18 Apr 50

Peqin -- On 16 April, work on the extension of the Tirana-Durres-Peqin railroad line to Elbasan was formally inaugurated. According to Soviet Chief Engineer Vllasov, the Peqin-Elbasan section of the line, which will be 32 kilometers long, is scheduled to be finished in 1950. This will involve laying 35 kilometers of track and building 85 bridges and culverts. About 20,000 cubic meters of concrete and reinforced concrete will be required. Labor will be supplied by Albanian youth. The plans for the line were revised by Soviet specialists, thereby effecting substantial savings.

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